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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/797,801	03/09/2004	Jeffrey D. Mullen	JDM/004	4497
32733	7590	08/13/2010		
JEFFREY D. MULLEN			EXAMINER	
731 SOUTH NEGLEY			RAMAKRISHNALAH, MELUR	
APT. 2				
PITTSBURGH, PA 15232				
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2614	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			08/13/2010	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/797,801

Applicant(s)

MULLEN, JEFFREY D.

Examiner

Melur Ramakrishnaiah

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 May 2010.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 and 8-41 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 35-39 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5, 8-34, 40-41 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/GS/US)
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 5-6-10 has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-5, 8-9, 40-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kita (US PAT: 6,263,218) in view of Geholt (US PAT: 6,249,222).

Regarding claim 1, Kita discloses a system for use with a cellular phone that provides notification of an incoming call, the system comprising: a sensing device (24, figs. 1, 8) that is operable to be attaches to the cellular telephone (21, fig. 1) that provides communication signals indicative of an incoming call, wherein the sensing device (24, figs. 1, 12A/12B) is an autonomous device (col. 4 lines 16-24), and a remote communication device (26/27, figs. 1, 10) configured to receive the communication signals, wherein the communication device is configured to provide notification signals

to a user dependent upon received communication signals (col. 3, line 66 – col. 4, line 65).

Kita differs from claim 1 in that he does not specifically teach: sensing device that senses a signal, operable to directly perceived by a user from the cellular phone.

However, Geholt discloses method and apparatus for generating color based alerting signals which teaches: sensing device (reads on 80, fig. 8) that senses a signal, operable to directly perceived by a user from the cellular phone (figs. 1A, 8; col. 3, line 52-64).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Kita's system to provide for the following: sensing device that senses a signal, operable to directly perceived by a user from the cellular phone as this arrangement would provide means for sensing the incoming call alert signals and further facilitate remote notification of incoming call as taught by Geholt

Regarding claims 2-5, 8-9, 40-41, Kita further teaches the following: remote communication device (27, figs. 1, 10) includes an amplifier (122, fig. 10) and a speaker (133, fig. 10), wherein the notification signals are auditable notifications, remote communication device includes a vibrating device (131, fig. 10) and a source of electrical energy (see Vcc on fig. 10), wherein notification signal are vibrational notifications (col. 10 lines 12-60), remote communication device includes a light emitting device (225, fig. 24) and a source of electrical energy (not shown), wherein notification signals are light-emitted notifications (col. 20, line 65 – col. 21, line 8), remote communication device includes a display device (142, fig. 10) and source of electrical

energy, wherein the notification signals are text notifications (col. 27 lines 26-34), sensing device (24, figs. 1, 12A/12B) is an autonomous device, sensing device (24, fig. 1) and remote communication device (26/27, fig. 1) wirelessly communicate as shown in fig. 1, wireless communication is a one way communication from the sensing device (24, fig. 1) to the remote communication device (26/27, fig. 1), the signal is a vibration signal (col. 4 lines 33-35), the signal is light based signal (col. 20, line 3 - col. 21, line 4).

3. Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kita in view of Geholt as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Higuchi et al. (US PAT: 6,697,647, filed 2-22-2001, hereinafter Higuchi).

The combination differs from claim 10 in that it does not specifically teach: wireless communication is a two-way communication between the sensing device and the remote communication device.

However, Higuchi discloses cellular mobile telephone apparatus and alarm device therefor which teaches: wireless communication is a two-way communication between the sensing device and the remote communication device (fig. 7, col. 10 lines 16-41).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: wireless communication is a two-way communication between the sensing device and the remote communication device as this arrangement would facilitate the user to send a message to the caller that he cannot presently take the call because of his circumstances as taught by Higuchi.

4. Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kita in view of Geholt as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Togawa (JP2001086202A).

The combination differs from claims 11-13 in that it does not specifically teach: sensing device and the remote communication device communicate through a wire-based extension, wire-based communication is a: one-way communication from the sensing device to the remote communication device, a two-way communication between the sensing device and the remote communication device.

However, Togawa discloses ear microphone assembly which teaches: sensing device (6, fig. 1) and the remote communication device (3, fig. 1) communicate through a wire-based extension, wire-based communication is a: one-way communication from the sensing device to the remote communication device, a two-way communication between the sensing device and the remote communication device (see abstract; paragraphs: 0013-0015 and Drawing 1).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: sensing device and the remote communication device communicate through a wire-based extension, wire-based communication is a: one-way communication from the sensing device to the remote communication device, a two-way communication between the sensing device and the remote communication device as this arrangement would provide wire-based communication between the portable telephone and remote

communication device as taught by Togawa, thus providing another way of interfacing the devices.

5. Claims 15-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kita in view of Geholt as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Perry et al. (US PAT: 6,160,489, hereinafter Perry) and Toyoshima (JP2001-352378).

The combination differs from 15 in that although it discloses autonomous sensing device (24, fig. 1, col. 4 lines 15-24 of '218), it does not specifically teach vibrational sensor for alerting.

However, Perry discloses wireless communication device adapted to plurality of distinctive tactile alert patterns which teaches the following: vibrational sensor for alerting (abstract).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: vibrational sensor for alerting as this arrangement would provide another well known method for alerting user for incoming calls as taught by Perry.

The combination differs from claims 16-18 in that sensing device includes a vibrational sensor, communication signals are provided based on the vibrational sensor sensing vibrations of the cellular phone: notification signal are light based, notification signals are audible, and notification signals are tactile.

However, Perry teaches sensing device includes a vibrational sensor, and notification signals are: light based, audible, tactile (col. 4, line 62-col. 5, line 21), but the

combination of Kita and Perry does not teach: converting one form of alert into another form for sending into notification device.

However, Toyoshima teaches the following: converting one form of alert (for example light-based) into another form of alert (vibration) for sending into notification device (Drawings 1-5; paragraphs: 0007 -0016).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: sensing device includes a vibrational sensor, communication signals are provided based on the vibrational sensor sensing vibrations of the cellular phone: notification signal are light based, notification signals are audible, and notification signals are tactile in order to meet needs of the user circumstances as taught by the combination of Perry and Toyoshima.

The combination differs from claims 19-21 in that he does not specifically teach: sensing device includes a vibrational sensor, the communication signals are provided based on vibration sensor sensing vibrations of the cellular phone, and the vibrational sensor is operable to determine different types of vibrations of the cellular telephone, the vibrational sensor is operable to provide a different communication signals for each of the different types of types of vibrations.

However, Perry teaches the following: sensing device includes a vibrational sensor, and the vibrational sensor is operable to determine different types of vibrations of the cellular telephone, the vibrational sensor is operable to provide a different communication signals for each of the different types of types of vibrations (col. 5, line

61 – col. 6, line 32). But neither Kita nor Perry teach the following: the communication signals are provided based on vibration sensor sensing vibrations of the cellular phone.

However, Toyoshima teaches the following: converting one form of alert (for example light-based) into another form of alert (vibration) for sending into notification device (Drawings 1-5; paragraphs: 0007 -0016).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: sensing device includes a vibrational sensor, the communication signals are provided based on vibration sensor sensing vibrations of the cellular phone, and the vibrational sensor is operable to determine different types of vibrations of the cellular telephone, the vibrational sensor is operable to provide a different communication signals for each of the different types of types of vibrations in order to meet needs of the user circumstances as taught by the combination of Perry and Toyoshima.

The combination differs from claims 22-23, in that he does not specifically teach: sensing device includes a light sensor; sensing device includes a light sensor and the communication signals are provided based on the light sensor sensing the light emitted from the cellular phone.

However, Toyoshima teaches the following: sensing device includes a light sensor; sensing device includes a light sensor (T1, Drawing 1) and the communication signals are provided based on the light sensor sensing the light emitted from the cellular phone (paragraphs: 0007-0016).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Kita's system to provide for the following: sensing device includes a light sensor; sensing device includes a light sensor and the communication signals are provided based on the light sensor sensing the light emitted from the cellular phone in order to meet needs of the user circumstances as taught by Toyoshima.

6. Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kita in view of Geholt as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Toyoshima and Oota (US 2003/0176205A1, filed 3-18-2002).

The combination differs from claim 24 in that it does not specifically teach: autonomous sensing device includes a light sensor, the communication signals are provided based on the light sensor sensing the light from the cellular phone, and the light sensor is operable to determine different types of lights emitted from the cellular phone.

However, Toyoshima teaches light sensor operable to determine types of light emitted from the cellular telephone (Drawing 3, paragraph: 0008-0011 of Toyoshima); Oota discloses Mobile communication terminal which teaches the following: different types of light emissions from the cellular telephone (paragraph: 0040).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: autonomous sensing device includes a light sensor, the communication signals are provided based on the light sensor sensing the light from the cellular phone as this arrangement would provide light based sensing of call signals; different types of light emissions from the

cellular telephone as this arrangement would facilitate to identify different kinds of alerts as taught by Oota.

7. Claims 14, 25, 27-30, 31-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gehlot (US PAT: 6,249,222) in view of Fujisawa et al. (US 2002/0115478, hereinafter Fujisawa)

Regarding claim 14, Gehlot discloses a system for use with a cellular phone (14, fig. 1A) that provides notification of an incoming call, the system comprising: a sensing device (reads on 15, fig. 1A) that is operable to be attached to the cellular phone (14, fig. 1A) that provides communication signals indicative of an incoming call, and a remote device (18a, fig. 1A, fig. 2) configured to receive communication signals, wherein the communication device is configured to provide notification signals that are only light-based, the device is not operable to provide non-light based notification signals, and the notification signals are dependent upon the received communication signals (figs. 1A, 2, 8; col. 3 lines 13-18, lines 24-28; col. 3 lines 52-64; col. 4 lines 10-40).

Regarding claim 31, Gehlot discloses a system comprising: a remote device (18a, figs. 1A, 2) configured to determine notification of an incoming call of a cellular phone (14, fig. 1A), wherein remote device is configured to provide notification signals, dependent of the notification of the incoming call, that are only light-based, the device is not operable to provide non-light based notification signals (figs. 1A, 2, 8; col. 3 lines 13-18, lines 24-28; col. 3 lines 52-64; col. 4 lines 10-40).

Gehlot differs from claims 14 and 31 in that he does not specifically disclose: the remote communication device, the remote communication device is configured to provide signals to the cellular phone.

However, Fujisawa discloses mobile telephone and radio communication device cooperatively processing incoming call which teaches: the remote communication device (12A, figs. 7-8), the remote communication device is configured to provide signals to the cellular phone (11A, fig. 7; paragraphs: 0162; 0362, 0364).

. Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify Gehlot's system to provide for the following: the remote communication device, the remote communication device is configured to provide signals to the cellular phone as this arrangement would facilitate to respond to the call received at the mobile/or cellular telephone by using remote communication device as taught by Fujisawa, thus facilitating user convenience.

Regarding claims 25, 27-30, 32-34, Gehlot further teaches the following: device (15, fig. 1A) is an autonomous device, sensing device and the remote device communicate wirelessly (figs. 8, 2), sensing device includes a battery (not shown), remote device includes a battery (27, fig. 2, col. 5 lines 23-33), remote device determines the notification of the incoming call wirelessly, notification signals are only light based are provided by LED (figs. 1A, 2, 8; col. 3 lines 13-18, lines 24-28; col. 3 lines 52-64; col. 4 lines 10-40).

8. Claim 26 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gehlot in view of Fujisawa as applied to claim 14 above, and further in view of Togawa (JP2001-086202).

The combination differs from claim 26 in that it does not teach the following: sensing device and remote communication device communicate through a wire-based extension.

However, Togawa teaches the following: sensing device and remote communication device communicate through a wire-based extension (abstract, Drawing 1, paragraphs: 0013-0014).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time invention was made to modify the combination to provide for the following: sensing device and remote communication device communicate through a wire-based extension as this arrangement would provide wire based notification of events in the portable telephone as taught by Togawa.

9. Claims 35-39 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-5, 8-24, 14-34, 40-41 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Melur Ramakrishnaiah whose telephone number is (571)272-8098. The examiner can normally be reached on 9 Hr schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Curt Kuntz can be reached on (571) 272-7499. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Melur Ramakrishnaiah/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2614